

Meeting Report

CALIFORNIA INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM TASK FORCE PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, March 17, 2003
Resources Building Auditorium, 1416 9th Street, Sacramento

Task Force Members and Designees Present: Loren Bommlyn, Ruth Coleman, Gen Denton, John Gomez, Cindy La Marr, Bill Mungary, Larry Myers, Mary Nichols, Michael Sweeney.

DPR Staff Present: Maria Baranowski, Leo Carpenter, Jr., Paulette Hennum, Pauline Grenbeaux, Pilar Onate, Laura Reimche

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Executive Secretary Coleman shortly after 10:00 am. Denton opened with a traditional blessing. Coleman explained that she would move the meeting forward in absence of an elected Chairperson. The group agreed by consensus that they would discuss election of a chairperson at the end of the meeting. Task Force Members introduced themselves and described their interests in the Project. La Marr introduced Jerome Encinas from Senator Brulte's office.

Coleman introduced two designees for the ex-officio members: Deputy Resource Secretary Michael Sweeney, who will serve as designee for Mary Nichols, and Pilar Onate, Deputy Director for Legislation, who will serve as designee for Coleman. She announced that Charlene Simmons will serve regularly as designee for State Librarian Kevin Starr, and Margaret Dalton will serve as designee for Larry Myers.

Coleman introduced CICC Project staff and described their responsibilities. Grenbeaux will serve as the Project lead, and Hennum and Carpenter from the Cultural Resources Division will assist. Maria Baranowski will coordinate architectural master planning and site selection. Tara Lynch will serve as Staff Counsel for the Project and will attend most meetings.

REVIEW OF TASK FORCE RESPONSIBILITIES

Coleman reviewed the requirements of Senate Bill 2063 and the duties of the Task Force.

Nichols gave an overview of the financial situation affecting the Project. She acknowledged the seriousness of the State Budget deficit, but assured the Task Force that the Project will not be set aside by the Administration. There is already \$5 million

currently allocated from Proposition 40 in the 2002/03 budget, and another \$5 million from the same source identified in the Governor's budget for 2003/04. This latter amount will require support by the Legislature in the year-end budget process. There are sufficient funds to ensure a master plan for the entire build-out, and the implementation of a first phase. With a good master plan, it will be possible to raise funds for the rest of the Project.

Staff Counsel Laura Reimche reviewed the requirements of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. The question was raised as to whether Task Force Members were subject to the Fair Political Practices Commission reporting requirements, and staff committed to clarifying that and reporting to the members.

Grenbeaux outlined the anticipated meeting schedule, which would include meetings of the whole Task Force at intervals of about two months (or more). Members may also participate in special subject working groups which would include other members of the public, and attend informational meetings throughout the State. Activities of the Task Force will be posted on the Project's web-site, www.ciccm.org.

The Task Force recessed for lunch, and reconvened at about 1:00 pm.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Grenbeaux reviewed three aspects of the Project that will need attention from the Task Force: 1) the development of a facility (capital development), 2) the establishment of an institution (operations, community relations), and 3) the new institution's role in the network of other Indian cultural centers and museums in California.

Copies of previous studies for a California Indian Museum were presented. The next meeting will focus on the confirmation of the previously-established vision for the Project, or identification of areas which require further deliberation. It is desirable that a vision statement be available in print by the end of the summer, to explain to others what the Task Force intends and to use for building support.

Baranowski provided an outline of a schedule for capital development that would result in the completion of a finished facility within four years, and described the master-planning process. She confirmed that Task Force members will participate in the selection of the design firm that will be contracted to develop the master plan. She asked that members think about their vision for how the Center will look and feel for discussion at the next meeting. It will be necessary to narrow the site selection criteria in the next few months in order to stay on the current schedule, or to have a specific site selected by March of 2004 as required by SB 2063.

Mungary expressed his concern that partnerships between state and local agencies, and private entities, be considered before selecting a site, to ensure adequate funding to operate the new facility.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Coleman asked for comments from the public. Joe Marine spoke in favor of the Lake Natoma site that was identified many years ago for a statewide Indian museum. Coleman responded that the site to which he referred was still an option.

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND ADOPTION OF PROCEDURES

The Task Force agreed by consensus to defer election of a Chairperson until the next meeting.

The members discussed the possible adoption of Robert's Rules of Order for the future conduct of meetings. There was some agreement that basic respectful conduct should be adequate for conducting Task Force meetings, but that Robert's Rules could be followed if it became necessary. No action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at about 2 pm.